

Farm Credit Administration

§ 614.4155

direct loans to production credit associations and other financing institutions. Direct loans and advances to other financing institutions will be evidenced by a separate promissory note. Direct loans and advances to production credit associations may be evidenced by a separate promissory note or as provided in the General Financing Agreement.

(c) Securities and other obligations pledged to the bank by an association pursuant to a general pledge and direct loan agreement, shall be held by the bank as collateral for direct loans made by the bank against such securities, as general collateral to secure all paper discounted for the association, and as security for all other obligations of the association to the bank. In the event it is necessary for a bank to realize on such collateral the proceeds therefrom will be applied in that order.

[37 FR 11424, June 7, 1972. Redesignated and amended at 55 FR 24880 and 24883, June 19, 1990; 58 FR 48791, Sept. 20, 1993]

Subpart D—General Loan Policies for Banks and Associations

§ 614.4150 Lending policies and loan underwriting standards.

Under the policies of its board, each institution shall adopt written standards for prudent lending and shall issue written policies, operating procedures, and control mechanisms that reflect prudent credit practices and comply with all applicable laws and regulations. Written policies and procedures shall, at a minimum, prescribe:

(a) The minimum supporting credit and financial information, frequency for collection of information, and verification of information required in relation to loan size, complexity and risk exposure

(b) The procedures to be followed in credit analysis

(c) The minimum standards for loan disbursement, servicing and collections

(d) Requirements for collateral and methods for its administration

(e) Loan approval delegations and requirements for reporting to the board

(f) Loan pricing practices

(g) Loan underwriting standards that include measurable standards:

(1) For determining that an applicant has the operational, financial, and management resources necessary to repay the debt from cashflow

(2) That are appropriate for each loan program and the institution's risk-bearing ability; and

(3) That consider the nature and type of credit risk, amount of the loan, and enterprises being financed

(h) Requirements that loan terms and conditions are appropriate for the loan; and

(i) Such other requirements as are necessary for the professional conduct of a lending organization, including documentation for each loan transaction of compliance with the loan underwriting standards or the compensating factors or extenuating circumstances that establish repayment of the loan notwithstanding the failure to meet any one or more loan underwriting standard.

[62 FR 51014, Sept. 30, 1997]

§ 614.4155 Interest rates.

Loans made by each bank and direct lender association shall bear interest at a rate or rates as may be determined by the institution board. The board shall set interest rates or approve individual interest rate changes either on a case-by-case basis or pursuant to an interest rate plan within which management may establish rates. Any interest rate plan shall set loan-pricing policies and objectives, provide guidance regarding the circumstances under which management may adjust rates, and provide the upper and lower limits on management authority. Any interest rate plan adopted shall be reviewed on a continuing basis by the board, as well as in conjunction with its review and approval of the institution's operational and strategic business plan.

[62 FR 66818, Dec. 29, 1997]

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 62 FR 66818, Dec. 22, 1997, § 614.4280 of subpart G was redesignated as § 614.4155 of subpart D and revised, effective upon the expiration of 30 days after publication in the FEDERAL REGISTER during which either or both houses of Congress are in session. For the convenience of the user, the superseded text is set forth as follows:

§ 614.4280 Interest rates.

Loans made by each bank shall bear interest at a rate or rates as may be determined by the bank board. A bank board shall set interest rates or approve individual interest rate changes either on a case-by-case basis or pursuant to an interest rate plan within which management may establish rates. Any interest rate plan shall set loan-pricing policies and objectives, provide guidance regarding the circumstances under which management may adjust rates, and provide the upper and lower limits on management authority. A bank board may not delegate its ultimate responsibilities for setting interest rates, and any interest rate plan adopted shall be reviewed on a continuing basis by the bank board, as well as in conjunction with its review and approval of the bank's annual fiscal plan and long-range financial plan.

[46 FR 51879, Oct. 22, 1981, as amended at 54 FR 1150, Jan. 12, 1989; 54 FR 50736, Dec. 11, 1989]

§ 614.4160 Differential interest rate programs.

Pursuant to policies approved by the board of directors, differential interest rates may be established for loans based on a variety of factors that may include type, purpose, amount, quality, funding or operating costs, or similar factors or combinations of factors. Differential interest rate programs should achieve equitable rate treatment within categories of borrowers. In the adoption of differential interest rate programs, institutions may consider, among other things, the effect that such interest rate structures will have on the achievement of objectives relating to the special credit needs of young, beginning or small farmers.

[61 FR 67186, Dec. 20, 1996. Redesignated at 62 FR 66818, Dec. 22, 1997]

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 62 FR 66818, Dec. 22, 1997, § 614.4321 of subpart G was redesignated as § 614.4160 of subpart D, effective upon the expiration of 30 days after publication in the FEDERAL REGISTER during which either or both houses of Congress are in session.

§ 614.4165 Special credit needs.

(a) The board of each direct lender institution shall adopt policies to establish programs to provide credit and related services to young, beginning, and small farmers, ranchers, and producers or harvesters of aquatic products.

(b) Each Farm Credit Bank and agricultural credit bank shall provide to the Farm Credit Administration an annual report summarizing the operations and achievements in its chartered territory under such programs. Such reports shall be based on the reports from each association providing services under these programs and shall be in a format prescribed by the Farm Credit Administration.

(c) *Specialized enterprises.* Consideration can be given by bank and association boards to organizing groups of similar specialized borrowers engaged in enterprises involving a high degree of risk into pools by which banks or associations may minimize the higher risk occasioned by financing such specialized enterprises. Where such programs are authorized, the direct lender institution board shall adopt appropriate policies that define criteria for the selection of specialized high-risk enterprises.

[46 FR 53022, Oct. 28, 1981, as amended at 55 FR 24883, June 19, 1990; 62 FR 51014, Sept. 30, 1997]

Subpart E—Loan Terms and Conditions

SOURCE: 55 FR 24884, June 19, 1990, unless otherwise noted.

§ 614.4200 General requirements.

(a) *Terms and conditions.* (1) The terms and conditions of each loan made by a Farm Credit bank or association shall be set forth in a written document or documents, such as a loan agreement, promissory note, or other instrument(s) appropriate to the type and amount of the credit extension, in order to establish loan conditions and performance requirements. Copies of all documents executed by the borrower in connection with the closing of a loan made under titles I or II of the Act shall be provided to the borrower at the time of execution and at any time thereafter that the borrower requests additional copies.

(2) The terms and conditions of all loans shall be adequately disclosed in writing to the borrower not later than loan closing. For loans made under titles I and II of the Act, the institution